

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: SHUM

SUBJ: SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION
OF MINORITIES - AUGUST 22 - AGENDA ITEM 13: STUDY OF CERTAIN
QUESTIONS RUWATING TO THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE

REF: GENEVA 6367

1. HRD DIRECTOR VAN BOVEN OPENED DAY-LONG DEBATE ON SUBJECT
AGENDA ITEM BY RESTATING REQUESTS OF HRC TO THE SUB-COMMISSION
AS SET FORTH IN RES. 9 (XXXIII) ENTITLED "STUDY OF REPORTED
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE. TWO RECOMMENDATIONS
WERE INCORPORATED IN THE RES.: (1) A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR FROM
THE S-C TO DO THE STUDY ON THE CONSEQUENCES OF VARIOUS FORMS
OF AID EXTENDING TO CHILEAN AUTHORITIES AND (2) A WORKING
GROUP WHICH WOULD SUGGEST ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF PROVIDING
"HUMANITARIAN, LEGAL AND FINANCIAL AID TO THOSE ARBITRARILY
ARRESTED OR IMPRISONED, TO THOSE FORCED TO LEAVE CHILE AND TO
THEIR RELATIVES."

2. LATIN AMERICAN EXPERTS OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY
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OPPOSED THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR OR WG. ALL
CONTENDED THAT THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS) WOULD
DEAL WITH THE HR VIOLATIONS OF CHILE. REGARDING THE HUMANI-
TARIAN AID ALL POINTED TO THE AMERICAN TRADITION OF HELPING
THE NEEDY. NOTI THAT CHILEAN EXILES HAVE BEEN ASSISTED IN
COSTA RICAN MEXICO AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, LA
EXPERTS REJECTED ESTABLISHING A WG ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

TO EXILES AND FAMILIES OF DETAINEES.

3. SEKVIAMAH (GHANA) AND SCHREIBER (BELGIUM) ARGUED THAT THE RES WAS A MANDATE FROM PARENT BODY (HRC) WHICH OBLIGATED THE S-C TO ACT. FURTHERMORE, PUBLIC OPINION DEMANDED ACTION. CONCEDED THAT SOME CHANGES HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED BY GOC, S-C MEMBERS WHO FAVORED IMPLEMENTATION OF RES. 9 CONTENDED THAT A REFUSAL TO STUDY SITUATION IN CHILE WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO ABANDONING THE COUNTRY. EXPRESSING DOUBTS ABOUT THE ABOLISHMENT OF DINA, THE CHILEAN SECURITY POLICE, MEMBERS EMPHASIZED THAT VIGILANCE WAS NEEDED TO PREVENT RE-OCCURRENCE OF SUCH EXCESSES AS THOSE PERPETRATED BY THE SECRET POLICE. IN ADDITION, MEMBERS FAVORING THE CHILE STUDIES EXPLAINED THAT INFORMATION COLLECTED ABOUT CHILE WOULD BE USEFUL IN OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD.

4. SMIRNOV (USSR) SAID REGIONAL EFFORTS, SUCH AS THE OAS, SHOULD BE APPLAUDED BUT THERE WAS NEED TO STUDY THE VARIOUS TYPES OF AID PROVIDED CHILE. HE SAID RESEARCH WOULD SHOW WHAT KIND OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE THE U.S. IS PROVIDING CHILE, AND HOW MUCH ECONOMIC AID IS PROVIDED BY PRIVATE BANKS, THE IBRD AND THE IDB. COMMENT: SMIRNOV HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN PROVIDED WITH A COPY OF THE RESEARCH STUDY ON CHILE CITED IN REFTEL WHICH WAS FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT. SINCE THE DOCUMENT COULD NOT BE INTRODUCED LEGALLY SMIRNOV ELECTED TO READ SEGMENTS OF THE STUDY CRITICAL OF THE U.S. AND RECOMMEND THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEY BE CAREFULLY PROBED AND INCLUDED IN THE STUDY ON THE CONSEQUENCES OF AID EXTENDED TO CHILEAN AUTHORITIES. END COMMENT.

5. AMBASSADOR CARTER EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS MUST BE KEPT ON THE AGENDA AND REJECTED IDEA THAT BECAUSE THE OAS WAS DEALING WITH THE CHILE SITUATION OTHER BODIES NEED NOT LOOK AT THE PROBLEM. HE DISAGREED WITH S-C COLLEAGUES THAT THEY MUST ACT ON ISSUES RECOMMENDED TO THEM BY THE HRC AND NOTED THAT THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEMS WERE GIVEN TO MINOR BODIES TO SOLVE. HE SAID HE WAS NOT SURE THAT THE S-C WAS THE BODY TO DO SOME OF THE JOBS ASSIGNED IT.

6. ALTHOUGH NO ASIANS PARTICIPATED IN THE DEBATE AND ONLY ONE AFRICAN (SEKVIAMAH) INTERVENED TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF RES 9, A MAJORITY OF S-C MEMBERS WHO SPOKE ON THE ITEM AGREED THAT BOTH PARTS OF THE RES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED.

7. AS A RESULT, WORKING GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED TO RECOMMEND A RAPPORTEUR FOR THE STUDY ON CONSEQUENCES OF AID TO CHILE AND ALSO TO SUGGEST MEMBERS OF A WORKING GROUP ON HUMANITARIAN AID. THEY WILL ALSO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE TYPE OF INFORMATION REQUIRED AND ITS PRESENTATION TO THE HRC. THE GROUP IS

COMPOSED OF BOURDHIBA (TUNISIA), SCHREIBER (BELGIUM),
PERDOMO (COLOMBIA), SMIRNOV (USSR) AND BHAGAT (INDIA).
VANDEN HEUVEL

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